

## Message Text

SECRET

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21

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 W  
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O R 230635Z MAY 74  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE  
SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7972  
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
USINT DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T BEIRUT 5777

EXDIS

JERUSALEM FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, IS, LE, XF  
SUBJECT: LEBANESE FEAR OF ISRAELI OCCUPATION

REF: BEIRUT 5740

1. LATE LAST NIGHT (MAY 22) FOLLOWING MEETING GOL COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF PRESIDENCY (DIB) ASKED SEE EMBOFF URGENTLY. DIB, SPEAKING ON BEHALF PRESIDENT FRANGIE, SAID LEBANESE FONMIN NAFFA HAD JUST RETURNED FROM MEETING ARAB LEAGUE DEFENSE COUNCIL IN CAIRO. WHILE THERE HE HAD BEEN WARNED BY CERTAIN OTHER ARAB OFFICIALS, AND IN ESPECIALLY STRONG TERMS BY EGYPTIAN MINISTER INFORMATION, THAT ISRAELI INVASION AND OCCUPATION OF SOUTH LEBANON IS IMMINENT. LEBANESE AMBASSADOR TO EGYPT SENT TELEGRAM MAY 22 WITH ESSENTIALLY SAME WARNING.

2. NAFFA ALSO REPORTED TO FRANGIE THAT STRONG INTERNAL POLITICAL PRESSURE IS BUILDING UP FOR CALLING SC MEETING, EVEN AT THIS LATE DATE. PRESSURE STEMS FROM CONTINUING ISRAELI ATTACKS AND FEAR

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THEY PRESAGE EVEN MORE CARNAGE AND POSSIBLE OCCUPATION.

3. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, NAFFA REQUESTED FRANGIE REOPEN QUESTION OF REQUESTING SC MEETING. DIB SAID FRANGIE REFUSED DO SO, ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT RECOGNIZES MARKED INCREASE IN TENSIONS IN LEBANON AS RESULT CONTINUING ESRAELI ATTACKS. FRANGIE TOLD NAFFA HE THOUGH HIS FEARS WERE EXAGGERATED, SAID GOL WOULD CONTINUE COURSE WHICH HAD OBTAINED APPROVAL OF SECRETARY KISSINGER AND WOULD NOT RISK COMPLICATING SECRETARY'S MISSION AT THIS CRUCIAL STAGE.

4. DIB SAID FRANGIE HAD ALSO ASKED HIM, DIB, CONTACT EMBASSY IN ORDER EXPLAIN ABOVE SITUATION AND ASK THAT IT BE DRAWN TO ATTENTION OF SECRETARY KISSINGER. IF, CONTRARY TO EXPECTATIONS, ISRAEL SHOULD BE RASH ENOUGH TO OCCUPY PART OF SOUTH LEBANON, EVEN TEMPORARILY, FRANGIE FEARS IT WOULD PROVOKE VERY NEGATIVE REACTION FROM OTHER ARAB STATES AND COULD JEOPARDIZE SYRIAN DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT, AS WELL AS CREATING VERY SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR GOL AND EXCITING STILL MORE RABID PALESTINIAN HOSTILITY.

5. COMMENT: WE UNABLE ASSESS FROM HERE JUST HOW FAR ISRAEL MIGHT GO WITH ITS PRESENT CAMPAIGN OF STRIKING AT TARGETS IN LEBANON IN EFFORT KILL FEDAYEEN BUT WITH INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCE OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION TO LEBANESE AND NON-FEDAYEEN PALESTINIANS. IN OUR JUDGMENT, ISRAELI EFFORTS ALREADY COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE (SEE REFTEL). IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT FRANGIE'S MESSAGE, BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO RAISE RIGHT AWAY WITH GOI QUESTION OF THEIR INTENTIONS WHERE LEBANON CONCERNED. REPLY IF POSSIBLE IN NAME OF SECRETARY WHICH CAN BE TRANSMITTED TO PRESIDENT FRANGIE SOONEST WOULD BE APPRECIATED.  
GODLEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**To:** JERUSALEM STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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